

Senate Bill 332

By: Senators Walker of the 22nd, Powell of the 23rd, Stephens of the 27th and Moody of the 56th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

To amend Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to elementary and secondary education, so as to include volunteer school bus monitors in the definition of 'educator' for purposes of limitation on civil damages; to include volunteer school bus monitors in the definition of 'educator' for purposes of limited immunity from criminal liability; to provide for volunteer school bus monitors to ride school buses that transport students; to provide for the establishment of policies and procedures by local boards of education regarding volunteer school bus monitors; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

SECTION 1.

Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to elementary and secondary education, is amended in Code Section 20-2-1000, relating to limitation on civil damages for disciplining student, by striking subsection (a) and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

"(a) As used in this Code section, the term 'educator' means any principal, school administrator, teacher, guidance counselor, paraprofessional, school bus driver, volunteer assisting teachers in the classroom, volunteer monitor on a school bus, tribunal members, or certificated professional personnel."

SECTION 2.

Said chapter is further amended in Code Section 20-2-1001, relating to limited immunity from criminal liability, by striking subsection (a) and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

"(a) As used in this Code section, the term 'educator' means any principal, school administrator, teacher, guidance counselor, paraprofessional, school bus driver, volunteer assisting teachers in the classroom, volunteer monitor on a school bus, tribunal members, or certificated professional personnel."

SECTION 3.

Said chapter is further amended by inserting a new Code section to be designated Code Section 20-2-1076 to read as follows:

"20-2-1076.

A local board of education may utilize volunteers as monitors to ride on school buses that transport students. A volunteer school bus monitor may assist the school bus driver in observing and reporting any student misconduct. A local board of education that elects to utilize volunteer school bus monitors shall adopt policies and procedures regarding the duties and protocols of volunteer school bus monitors. Volunteer school bus monitors shall not be authorized to discipline students."

SECTION 4.

All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.